

WRITTEN REASONS OF THE FAST TRACK TRIBUNAL



IN THE MATTER OF A (WRONGFUL DISMISSAL CLAIM BROUGHT BY:

Pollok Football Club

on behalf of

Scott Forrester

1. These are the written reasons for a Determination made by a Fast Track Tribunal which convened on Friday 4th August 2023 to deliberate this Claim.
2. In the 90th minute of the West of Scotland Premier Division fixture between Cumnock Juniors FC and Pollok FC on Wednesday 2nd August 2023, the player was dismissed from the field of play by the Referee for A1 - Serious Foul Play.
3. The Claimants submitted a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal behalf of the player. In support of this Claim, the club submitted video footage showing the incident in question and written submissions.
4. In order for a Claim of Wrongful Dismissal to be upheld, the Fast Track Tribunal must be satisfied, by way of evidence submitted and upon the balance of probabilities, that the Referee made an Obvious Refereeing Error in dismissing the player.
5. In summary, the Claimant's submission was that the player challenges the opponent for control of the ball. He makes contact with the opponent in the resulting challenge, but turns his body as to minimise contact with his opponent. The opponent has been impeded and a foul has been committed by the player.
6. The Referee provided a statement explaining the act which he decided was A1 - Serious Foul Play occurred where the player miss controlled the ball, subsequently causing the ball to travel up field and into the possession of an opponent. In the player's effort to challenge for the ball he ran towards his opponent at a high level of speed. This high speed (sprint) approach was consistent throughout the full challenge and did not reduce as the player approached and made contact with the opponent. As the player approached, the opponent passed the ball right. The player lunged at the opponent with the player's studs, from his left foot making contact with his opponent's shin. The player's right shoulder also making contact with his opponents collarbone/jaw line. The player's challenge endangered the safety of his opponent with the excessive force.
7. The Fast Track Tribunal viewed the video footage of the incident and carefully considered the written submissions from the Claimants. It also considered the definition from Laws of the Game in relation to A1 - Serious Foul Play.
8. Having considered all the evidence, the Fast Track Tribunal decided that the Claimants had successfully demonstrated that an Obvious Refereeing Error had occurred. The player's studs had not made contact with the opponent's shin, and upper body contact which occurred was a shoulder to shoulder.
9. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal was that the Claim be partially upheld, and the sending off offence and original sanction should be rescinded. However, in the view of the Fast Track Tribunal the player was guilty of the cautionable offence B1c - Recklessly tackles or

challenges an opponent, and the sanction imposed on the player should be a caution for offence B1c - Recklessly tackles or challenges an opponent.

10. The Determination of the Fast Track Tribunal is final and binding on all Parties and is not subject to Appeal.